GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2799
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2003
SRINAGAR AS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the airports in the country which were upgraded to international status during the financial year 2002-2003;

(b) whether Srinagar Airport was proposed to be upgraded to the status of international airport;

(c) if so, the progress made in this regard; and

(d) by when the Kargil Airport is likely to become operational?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)

(a) During 2002-2003, no airport has been upgraded to international status.
(b) & (c) Srinagar airport belongs to Indian Air Force and Airports Authority of India maintains a Civil Enclave comprising of passenger terminal building and apron. There is a plan to expand the existing terminal building for handling 900 passengers and the apron to accommodate more number of aircraft. Declaration of an airport as international depends upon the traffic potential and demand from international carriers.

(d) Kargil airport has become operational from February,, 2003. Indian Air Force has started flights for transporting civilians along with military personnel connecting Srinagar, Jammu and Chandigarh.